

ADVISORY: 4020
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SOFTWARE SUPPORT

DATE: 12/18/80
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TITLE: ABEND-AID

Purpose

To announce and document the installation of ABEND-AID.

Exclusions and Exceptions

Any user running under system keys are excluded from ABEND-AID processing  
e.t. TCAM dumps.

General Description

ABEND-AID is a software product of TOMARK, Inc. of Southfield, Michigan.  
which assists in the debugging of MVS SYSUDUMP and SYSABEND dumps.

ABEND-AID receives control as a part of the normal dump procedure and  
attempts to diagnose the cause of the dump in much the same manner as a  
programmer would "walk through" the dump. The information is then  
printed in English-like text and supporting information from the dump is  
formatted and printed in the order of importance (as determined by  
ABEND-AID). The result is a large savings in paper, spool space,  
machine time and hopefully, programmer time.

It is crucial to note that ABEND-AID works directly from the SYSUDUMP or  
SYSABEND dump and ABEND\_AID output should be approached in the same  
manner as a normal dump. This output does not supplant COBOL SYSDBOUT  
output nor does the ABEND-AID output attempt to relate dump areas to  
higher level language source statements as SYSDBOUT does. Programmers  
should keep this in mind and exercise care when using ABEND-AID under  
high level languages.

If ABEND-AID is able to successfully resolve the error, no full MVS  
dump is produced. The user has the option of requesting the full dump  
by including special JCL as detailed below.

Special JCL

The following special JCL cards may be included in any step where  
ABEND-AID defaults are to be modified. All these statements are optional

if the defaults are sufficient. If conflicting statements are present, the last one is used.

//ABNLDUMP DD DUMMY

DUMP - Provide normal MVS dump as well as ABEND\_AID output.

//ABNLDODP DD DUMMY

NODP - Never print MVS dump, only ABEND-AID output

//ABNLHELP DD DUMMY

HELP - Print ABEND-AID help text (currently the default, but will be shut off after a month)

//ABNLIGNR DD DUMMY

IGNR - Bypass ABEND-AID processing and produce MVS dump only.

//ABNLALL DD DUMMY

ALL - Format all dump data areas whether ABEND-AID feels that they are relevant or not.

//ABNLNONE DD DUMMY

NONE - Do not print any program storage areas or control blocks.

//ABNLWSPT DD DUMMY

WSPT - Print program working storage areas.

//ABNLNWSP DD DUMMY

NWSP - Do not print program working storage areas.

//ABNLPCBS DD DUMMY

PCBS -Print program control blocks.

//ABNLNCBS DD DUMMY

NCBS - Print program control block storage.

//ABNLFMTD DD DUMMY

FMTD - Print only the formatted portion of the MVS dump in addition to the ABEND-AID output

Documentation for ABEND-AID may be viewed by contacting Software Support

This document is the current version of Advisory 2.13.7011  
that had been issued by the Comptrollers Data Processing Division